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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 28 January 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, dated 23 January 2015, regarding the ratification by the Russian State Duma of the so-called "treaty" between the Russian Federation and its occupation regime in the Abkhazia region of Georgia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vakhtang **Makharoblishvili**
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia
to the United Nations

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Annex to the identical letters dated 28 January 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding the ratification by the Russian State Duma of the so-called "treaty" between the Russian Federation and its occupation regime in the Abkhazia region of Georgia

On 23 January 2015, Russia's lower house of parliament, the State Duma, ratified the so-called "treaty on alliance and strategic partnership", signed between Moscow and its occupation regime in the Abkhazia region of Georgia, in Sochi on 24 November 2014.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia expresses its extreme concern over the ratification of this so-called "treaty", which is tantamount to the annexation of Crimea. The Ministry states that this action represents a step towards the annexation of Georgia's integral territory, whereby the Russian Federation violates the internationally undertaken commitments, including those under the 12 August 2008 ceasefire agreement.

The Abkhazia region is an integral part of Georgia and is not a subject of international law. Any attempt to sign the so-called "treaty" with the so-called "republic of Abkhazia" is therefore a flagrant violation of international law and constitutes an illegal action devoid of legal consequences, in full breach of the fundamental norms and principles of international law, namely, sovereignty, the inviolability of borders, territorial integrity and the good-faith fulfilment of international commitments.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls upon the international community to properly assess, both politically and legally, the Russian Federation's actions and exercise due pressure on Russia. The firm and unanimous support of the international community will be of decisive importance as part of its efforts to bring an end to Russia's destructive activities.

Tbilisi, 23 January 2015